

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

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OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

<u>AUTHORIZATION TO DESIGNATE LANDMARK CASE</u>

The current record retention schedules indicate that the Regional Administrator, or their designee, may designate a specific case as a landmark case for record retention purposes.

For the purpose of permanently retaining historically significant records, nationally significant cases, and other cases of precedential significance, I authorize the Regional Counsel to designate cases as landmark cases, as described below. All records related to cases designated as landmark cases must be properly identified and permanently retained under the applicable EPA records schedule.

A "landmark case" designation is reserved for cases or situations of lasting interest at the national or regional level, as well as cases of major precedential significance. This includes exceptional cases of historic or major, lasting interest at the national or regional level, as well as cases of major precedential significance affecting the legal responsibilities of one or more industrial or commercial sectors across the country. Landmark cases typically involve substantial sustained interest on the part of the public and the media, as well as significant interest on the part of elected officials. Records relating to a landmark case will have a permanent retention period under the applicable EPA records schedule. See, for example, EPA Records Schedules 1044 (Compliance and Enforcement), 1025 (Legal Services), 025(b) (Enforcement Actions – Superfund Site-Specific), and 480(b) (Enforcement Actions – Oil Site-Specific) [scheduled to be superseded by 1036 (Environmental Programs and Projects)].

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Michelle L. Pirzadeh

Acting Regional Administrator